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By:  Burrows H.R. No. 1704

R E S O L U T I O N

WHEREAS, Memories of a life filled with joyful times and meaningful accomplishments remain to comfort the family and friends of admired disability awareness advocate Randell Keith Resneder of Lubbock, who passed away on February 11, 2022, at the age of 48; and

WHEREAS, The son of Norma Arnold Resneder and Robert Resneder, Randell Resneder was born in Lubbock on December 31, 1973; he considered his cerebral palsy a gift he was given at birth, enabling him to demonstrate that a disability does not define an individual or determine what they can accomplish; and

WHEREAS, While attending William S. Hart High School in Santa Clarita, California, Mr. Resneder became a trailblazer in mainstreaming; he addressed the confusion and bias of fellow students who lacked exposure to people with disabilities, and he organized an awareness week featuring motivational speakers with disabilities, as well as wheelchair races and other activities; it became an annual event, and he launched a similar program as a student at College of the Canyons; his accomplishments earned him recognition from the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors, the *Los Angeles Times,* and numerous community groups and publications; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Resneder went on to earn a bachelor's degree in family studies and human development from the University of North Texas and both a master's degree in interdisciplinary studies and a master of education degree in instructional technology from Texas Tech University; the founder of Disability Awareness Programs of Texas, he was its executive director and served as a consultant and speaker on special needs issues; he received gubernatorial appointments to the Texas Council for Developmental Disabilities and the Texas State Independent Living Council; sustained by a strong faith, he was a member of First Christian Church and a supporter of the Special Friends Ministry at Bacon Heights Baptist Church, where he occasionally preached to members of the special needs community and their loved ones; and

WHEREAS, Randell Resneder made a positive difference in countless lives through his tireless efforts in behalf of people with disabilities, and his courage, determination, and compassion will remain a lasting source of inspiration to all who were fortunate enough to know him; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 88th Texas Legislature hereby pay tribute to the memory of Randell Keith Resneder and that sincere sympathy be extended to the members of his family: to his parents, Norma and Robert Resneder; to his twin brother, Rob Resneder, and his wife, Heather; to his nieces and nephews, Charlotte, RJ, and Garrett Resneder; to his grandmother, Imogene Davis; and to his many other relatives and friends; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be prepared for his family and that when the Texas House of Representatives adjourns this day, it do so in memory of Randell Resneder.